



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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7 MAY 1966

~~TOP SECRET~~

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DAILY BRIEF
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1. South Vietnam

Ky today publicly voiced a "prediction" that the Directorate would remain in power "for at least another year." He reaffirmed that elections for a constituent assembly would be held as scheduled in September, but stressed that "we will not resign in favor of this assembly."

Although there has been no reaction from the Buddhists so far, these remarks will almost certainly reinforce their belief that the military rulers intend to wriggle out of their "promise" of a speedy return to civilian government. Tri Quang told an American newsman on Thursday that "the people" in Hué were already "very much worried" about Ky's hint that the elections would be postponed until October.

Ky may be working himself into a mood to challenge the Buddhists.

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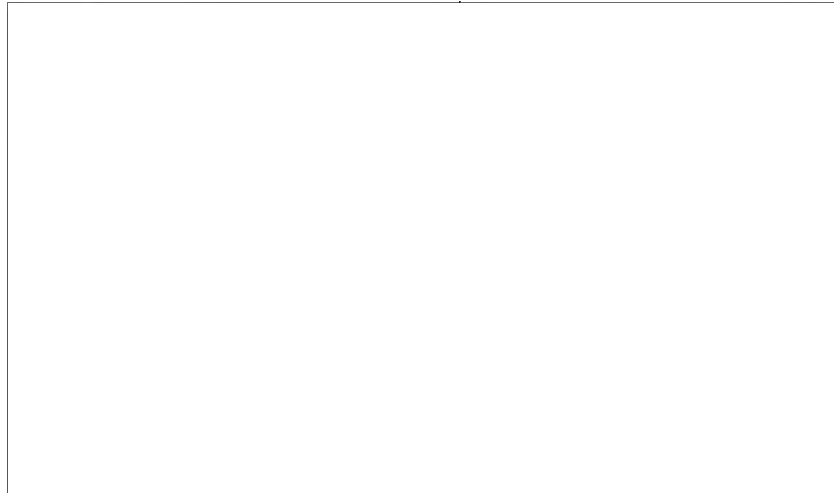
2. Vietnam

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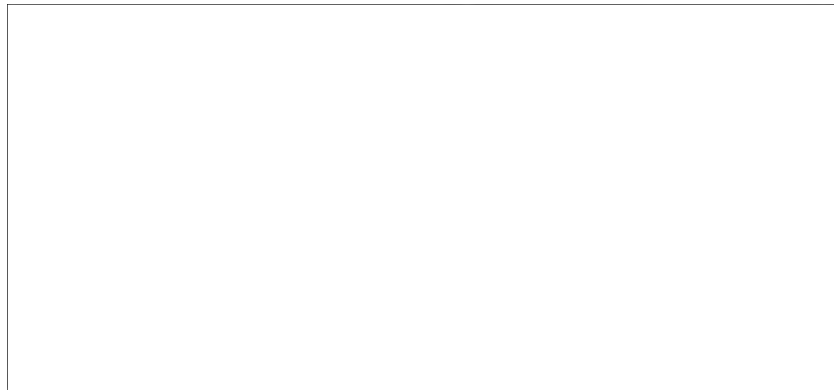
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3. Soviet Union



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4. Soviet Union



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5. Czechoslovakia

The Czechs are apparently about ready to buy long-range jet transports from the Douglas Aircraft Corporation if suitable credit terms can be worked out. This strongly suggests that despite Prague's negative propaganda reaction to President Johnson's speech on Tuesday, the Czechs in practice will continue to seek improved economic relations with the US.

If the contract with Douglas is signed, it will probably lead to a request for US approval of a Prague - New York route for Czechoslovak Airlines.

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6. Guatemala

Terrorists attempted another political assassination in Guatemala City early yesterday, but no further violence has been reported since that time. Police and military forces are continuing to take maximum security measures.

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